

News Release

Release No. CESWF-PA-02-054 Contact: Ron Ruffennach

For Release: Immediate 9 Aug 02 Phone: (817) 886-1517

Corps of Engineers announces releases from Canyon Dam

FORT WORTH, TX – The Fort Worth District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, announced today that it will begin making flood releases from Canyon Dam.

Tonight, at approximately 7 or 8 p.m., the Corps of Engineers will begin making minimal releases at between 400 and 500 cfs to begin lowering the flood pool. That release rate will continue overnight until the Corps can begin increasing the release rate throughout the day on Saturday during daylight hours. Corps personnel will be stationed downstream along the Guadalupe River to monitor water levels and channel conditions as the rate of release is increased. The Corps is hopeful to eventually reach a maximum release rate with the gates wide open, approximately 5,000 cfs. These releases are necessary to regain flood control storage capacity at Canyon Lake. About 1,350 cfs is still flowing over the spillway.

The work to clean out the stilling basin outlet works is complete and inspection of the gates has found everything to be in good condition.

The contractor hired by the Corps, Phillips and Jordan, had to temporarily suspend operations on July 26 due to hazardous flow conditions after removing as much debris as possible from the bank. On Aug. 8, the contractor made two attempts to cross the channel to begin work on the island debris pile, finally succeeding on the second attempt after fording through about six feet of fast moving water. The debris removal has significantly improved the flow capacity of the river, allowing the Corps to begin releases earlier.

Canyon Lake releases

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Phillips and Jordan is the nationwide debris removal contractor for the U. S. Army Corps of Engineers and most recently worked at Ground Zero following the September 11th disaster.

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Editors Note:

The Army Corps of Engineers will hold a press conference Saturday, Aug. 10, at 11:00 a.m. at the Canyon Lake Outlet Works, approach from FM 306 (from I-35 about 16 miles), follow South Access Road below the dam to the parking lot. Media will have the opportunity to see water releases being made through the gates. Please contact Judy Marsicano, cell number 817-832-3642, for additional information on Saturday.